<u>IN THE CLAIMS:</u>

Rewrite the pending claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of automatically ~~learning control sequences~~ <u>registering variable settings</u> associated with a plurality of computer application programs, comprising:

supplying a data structure;

~~extracting a first set of control sequences~~ while executing a first computer application program to perform a first task<u>, automatically extracting a first set of variable settings in addition to performing the first task</u>;

~~extracting a second set of control sequences~~ while executing a second computer application program to perform a second task<u>, automatically extracting a second set of variable settings in addition to performing the second task</u>;

loading said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> and said second set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> into said data structure so as to associate said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> with said first computer application program and said second set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> with said second computer application program; and

<u>testing a third computer application program by</u> executing<u>, in sequence,</u> said first and second computer application programs using said first and second sets of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> in said data structure to perform said first and second tasks automatically<u>, wherein said first and second tasks utilize the third computer application program</u>.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said executing step includes:

using said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> to open said first computer application program;

using said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> to perform a subroutine of said first computer application program; and

using said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> to close said computer application program.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

including a graphical user interface to prompt a user for selected ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u>.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 further comprising:

including a spread sheet in said graphical user interface.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> includes a ~~control sequence~~ <u>variable setting</u> to run said first computer application program.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> includes a ~~control sequence~~ <u>variable setting</u> to open said first computer application program.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> includes a ~~control sequence~~ <u>variable setting</u> to close said first computer application program.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> includes a ~~control sequence~~ <u>variable setting</u> to open a document within said first computer application program.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> includes a ~~control sequence~~ <u>variable setting</u> to print a document associated with said first computer application program.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> includes a ~~control sequence~~ <u>variable setting</u> to close a document associated with said first computer application program.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for use in conjunction with a computer system, the computer program product for automatically ~~learning control sequences~~ <u>registering variable settings</u> of a plurality of computer application programs, the computer program product comprising a computer readable storage medium and a computer program mechanism embedded therein, the computer program mechanism comprising:

a data structure;

~~instructions to extract a first set of control sequences~~ while executing a first computer application program to perform a first task<u>, instructions to automatically extract a first set of variable settings in addition to performing the first task</u>;

~~instructions to extract a second set of control sequences~~ while executing a second computer application program to perform a second task<u>, instructions to automatically extract a second set of variable settings in addition to performing the second task</u>;

instructions to load said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> and said second set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> into said data structure so as to associate said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> with said first computer application program and said second set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> with said second computer application program; and

instructions to <u>test a third computer application program by</u> ~~execute~~ <u>executing, in sequence,</u> said first and second computer application programs using said first and second sets of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> in said data structure to perform said first and second tasks automatically<u>, wherein said first and second tasks utilize the third computer application program</u>.

12. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 11, wherein said instructions to execute further include:

instructions to use said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> to open said first computer application program;

instructions to use said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> to perform a subroutine of said first computer application program; and

instructions to use said first set of ~~control sequences~~ <u>variable settings</u> to close said first computer application program.

13. (Original) The computer program product of claim 11 further comprising: instructions to display a graphical user interface.

14. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13 further comprising: instructions to include a spread sheet in said graphical user interface.

15. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 11 wherein said first set of ~~control sequences~~ variable settings includes a ~~control sequence~~ variable setting to run said first computer application program.

16. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 11 wherein said first set of ~~control sequences~~ variable settings includes a ~~control sequence~~ variable setting to open said first computer application program.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 11 wherein said first set of ~~control sequences~~ variable settings includes a ~~control sequence~~ variable setting to close said first computer application program.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 11 wherein said first set of ~~control sequences~~ variable settings includes a ~~control sequence~~ variable setting to open a document associated with said first computer application program.

19. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 11 wherein said first set of ~~control sequences~~ variable settings includes a ~~control sequence~~ variable setting to print a document associated with said first computer application program.

20. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 11, wherein said first set of ~~control sequences~~ variable settings includes a ~~control sequence~~ variable setting to close a document associated with said first computer application program.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 11, wherein said instructions to extract a first set of ~~control sequences~~ variable settings from a first computer application program further include instructions to detect whether said first computer application program includes a graphical user display with a menu bar.

22. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 21, wherein said instructions to extract further include instructions to extract a first ~~control sequence~~ variable setting corresponding to a second ~~control sequence~~ variable setting executed when menu items are selected from said menu bar.